

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 and 25-34 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-12, 14-23 and 25-34 are allowed. Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (f) and under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Claim 13 has been amended as shown above. Accordingly, claims 1-23 and 25-34 are pending as shown above.

Double Patenting

Claim 13 stands rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 19 of co-owned USSN 09/942,087. Claim 13 recites functional (*i.e.*, transcriptional repression) domains from DNA-N-methyl transferases (dNMTs) and methylated DNA-binding proteins (MBDs); while reference claim 19 recites localization domains from these two classes of protein.

Although applicants thus believe that the claims recite distinct subject matter (transcriptional repression domains on the one hand and localization domains on the other), for the purpose of expediting prosecution claim 13 has been amended to remove reference to functional domains from dNMTs and MBDs. Accordingly, Applicants believe the rejection can be withdrawn. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications claiming the subject matter that has been removed by amendment.

35 U.S.C. § 102(f)

For the reasons stated above, Applicants believe that the use of dNMTs and MBDs as transcriptional repression domains was not invented by another. However, the amendment to claim 13 obviates this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all outstanding issues have been addressed and look forward to notification of allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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